

When the worms had consumed the flesh, the skeleton was dismembered, any remains of muscles and sinews were buried, and the bones were deposited in a box, the skull being reddened with ochre. The box containing the bones was then carried to the common burial ground. In the early days of November the tribe celebrated a great festival which they called the Festival of the Dead or of the Souls ; every family then gathered in the common burial ground, and there with weeping and lamentation visited the boxes which contained the mouldering relics of their dead. On returning from the graveyard they held a great banquet, which ended the festival.<sup>1</sup> Some of the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico " believe that on a certain day (in August, I think) the dead rise from their graves and flit about the neighbouring Mils, and on that day all who have lost friends carry out quantities of corn, bread, meat, and such other good things of this life as they can obtain, and place them in the haunts frequented by the dead, in order that the departed spirits may once more enjoy the comforts of this nether world. They have been encouraged in this belief by the priests, who were in the habit of sending out and appropriating to themselves all these things, and then making the poor simple Indians believe that the dead had eaten them."<sup>2</sup>

Annual The Miztecs of Mexico believed that the souls of the festival dead came back in the twelfth month of every year, which among the corresponded to our November. On this day of All Souls of the \*louses were decked out to welcome the spirits. Jars of food and drink were set on a table in the principal

room,  
and the family went forth with torches to meet the  
ghosts  
and invite them to enter. Then returning themselves to  
the  
house they knelt around the table, and with eyes bent  
on  
the ground prayed the souls to accept of the offerings  
and  
to procure the blessings of the gods upon the family.  
Thus  
they remained on bended knees and with downcast eyes  
till  
the morning, not daring to look at the table lest they

<sup>1</sup> Bossu, *Nouveaux Voyages aux United States*  
(Philadelphia, 1853-  
*Indes Occidentales* (Paris, 1768), ii. 1856), iv. 78. The  
Pueblo village to ^  
95 \$- which the writer particularly  
refers is

<sup>2</sup> T. G. S. Ten Broeck, in H. R. Laguna.  
Schoolcraft's *Indian Tribes of the*